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EXTRAORDINARY

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MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

PUBLIC NOTICE

IMPORT TRADE CONTROL

New Delhi, the 13th July 1957

SUBJECT:—Import policy for 'Copper scrap, whether ingotted or otherwise' (S. No. 42-I) and 'Cscraps of brass, bronze and similar alloys' [S. No. 46(a)/I] during the quarter July—September, 1957.

No. 49-ITC(PN)/57.—Attention of importers is invited to Appendix I to this Ministry's Public Notice No. 42-ITC(PN)/57, dated the 29th June, 1957 according to which S. No. 42-I—'Copper scrap, whether ingotted or otherwise' and S. No. 46(a)/I—'Scraps of brass, bronze and similar alloys' are licensable to Actual Users during the quarter July—September, 1957.

2. As a result of certain representations, it has been decided that licences for these items will also be granted to established importers on *ad hoc* basis during the quarter July—September, 1957 in terms of paragraph 3 of Public Notice No. 41-ITC(PN)/57, dated the 29th June, 1957. These two items may be deemed to have been included in Appendix IX to the policy pamphlet for the quarter July—September, 1957.

3. Applications from established importers for grant of *ad hoc* licences for the above mentioned items may be submitted to the licensing authorities concerned by the 14th August, 1957 and the licences where granted will have six months' validity.

S. N. BILGRAMI, Jt. Secy.

MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

(Department of Food)

RESOLUTION

New Delhi, the 13th July 1957

No. 157(3)/57-PY.I.—In pursuance of the recommendations contained in the First Five Year Plan as to the necessity of organising handpounding of paddy to provide additional employment to rural population and to ensure a better standard of nutrition, the Government of India in their Resolution No. PY.I-608(5)/54, dated the 8th October, 1954 set up a Committee with the following terms of reference:—

- (i) To examine the working of the different types of rice milling now in vogue in the country from all relevant aspects such as technical, nutritional, consumer preference, economic and employment; and

(ii) To make recommendations as to the future policy that should be adopted and to indicate the administrative, financial and legislative measures which may be needed on the part of the Central and State Governments to give effect to them.

2. The "Rice Milling Committee" submitted its report towards the end of the June, 1955.

The Committee made the following recommendations:—

- (a) A system of licensing of rice mills and recognised handpounding centres should be introduced.
- (b) No new rice mills should be allowed to be set up and the expansion of the capacity of the existing mills should not be permitted.
- (c) No rice mills should be permitted to work for more than 6 hours a day so that a limit may be imposed to the production of the existing Mills.
- (d) Each State Government should draw a phased programme for the development of the handpounding industry and for eliminating the existing rice mills over a period of 5 years.
- (e) The polishing of rice should be restricted to the removal of bran to a maximum of 5 per cent. and a minimum of 3 per cent.
- (f) A cess may be levied on paddy milled by rice mills and the amount so collected may be utilised for encouraging the handpounding industry.
- (g) Handpounded rice may be exempted from sales tax.
- (h) The Government establishments should encourage handpounding by purchasing handpounded rice for organisations and institutions under their control.
- (i) All necessary measures should be taken for the encouragement of the handpounding industry including publicity, propaganda, research and provision of improved implements.

3. Another Committee termed "The Village and Small Scale Industries (Second Five-Year Plan) Committee" set up by the Planning Commission also made certain recommendations in regard to the handpounding of rice. They recommended *inter alia* that while every encouragement should be given to the handpounding industry, the working of the existing rice mills should not be disturbed. They envisaged that the additional production of paddy contemplated under the Five-Year Plan would be largely available for the handpounding industry.

4. The Government of India after a very careful consideration of the Report of the Rice Milling Committee and in consultation with the State Governments have come to the conclusion that it would not be advisable to eliminate the existing rice milling industry which has been developed over a period of several decades. The rice mills have now become an integral part of the rural economy and provide credit and storage facilities. They also provide facilities for quick conversion of paddy into rice and their elimination might disturb not only the rice supply position but also adversely affect the interest of paddy producers in the country. On the other hand, with the gradual increase in the production there is ample scope for the development of the handpounding industry.

5. The imposition of restrictions of the working hours of the mills would also not be advisable as that would adversely affect economic working of the mills which generally work only for a few months after the harvest.

6. The Government of India have, therefore, come to the following conclusions on the recommendations of the Rice Milling Committee:—

- (a) Licensing of all power-driven rice mills should be introduced and a census of all such mills should be taken;
- (b) No new mill should be allowed to be set up and no expansion of the existing capacity of the mills be permitted unless the State Government concerned is satisfied that it is necessary to do so for the purpose of ensuring adequate supplies. If, in any case, it is decided by the State Government concerned to allow any new mills to be set up, preference should be given to sheller mills;
- (c) Existing rice mills-shellers, hullers or combined sheller-hullers—may be allowed to continue to function;

- (d) The existing rice mills may be permitted to replace or modernise their equipment provided that this does not result in any substantial increase in their present installed capacity;
- (e) No restriction on the hours of working of rice mills should be imposed;
- (f) No cess on paddy milled in rice mills should be imposed;
- (g) The existing average rate of subsidy of Re. -/- per maund of paddy handpounded may be continued and no increase in the subsidy need be made at this stage;
- (h) It may be left to the State Government concerned to consider the question of exempting from Sales Tax, the handpounded rice produced at handpounding centres, certified by the All India Khadi & Village Industries' Commission and take such action as they may consider necessary;
- (i) State Governments and Defence Ministry, etc., may be advised that they should examine the possibility of purchasing handpounded rice for their requirements for jails, hospitals, armed forces, etc., etc.;
- (j) The milling of rice should be restricted to five per cent. removal of the bran with a minimum of three per cent. An inspectorate may be set up by the State Governments to implement this recommendation;
- (k) The other recommendations of the Rice Milling Committee on encouragement of production of handpounded rice, improved implements and publicity may be accepted.

7. The Government are taking appropriate steps to implement these decisions, and fresh legislation, where necessary, will shortly be undertaken.

ORDERED that a copy of this Resolution be communicated to all State Governments, all Ministries of the Government of India, Cabinet Secretariat, Prime Minister's Secretariat, the Private Secretary to the President, Planning Commission, the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, the Accountant General, Central Revenues and the Chief Audit Officer, Food, Rehabilitation & Supply, New Delhi, Pay & Accounts Officer, Ministry of Food & Agriculture, New Delhi.

ORDERED also that this Resolution be published in the *Gazette of India*, for general information.

B. B. GHOSH, Secy.

